



**IN THE
UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK
OFFICE**

Application Number	09/973,862
Filing Date	October 11, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kelly G. AMMANN et al.
Group Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	2599-104-D4
Today's Date	November 15, 2001

Title of the Invention: AUTOMATED DIAGNOSTIC ANALYZER AND METHOD

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend page 1 of the specification as shown on the attached pages.

A marked-up copy of the original text of specification page 1 is attached to this amendment. Material inserted is indicated by underlining (insertion) and material deleted is indicated by bracketing ([deletion]).